



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/655,811	09/05/2003	Carey E. Garibay	BEAS-01454US2	7109
23910	7590	06/19/2007	EXAMINER	
FLIESLER MEYER LLP			BACKER, FIRMIN	
650 CALIFORNIA STREET			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
14TH FLOOR			3621	
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94108				

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
06/19/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/655,811	GARIBAY ET AL.
Examiner	Art Unit	
FIRMIN BACKER	3621	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 April 2007.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-30 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-30 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Terminal Disclaimer

1. The terminal disclaimer filed on April 13th, 2007 disclaiming the terminal portion of any patent granted on this application which would extend beyond the expiration date of 10/655,713 has been reviewed and is accepted. The terminal disclaimer has been recorded.
2. The provisional double patenting has been withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Narin et al (U.S. PG Pub 2004/0158709).

5. As per claim 1, Narin et al teach a method comprising: maintaining digital records of software licenses for multiple groups, the digital records indicating rights associated with software licenses; accessing a group administration application to set the access rules for

members of a group, the access rules controlling the access of digital record data of the group by members of the group; and using the access rules to determine whether to allow a member of the group to access digital record data (*see abstract, fig 11, paragraphs 0009, 0010, 0017, 0088, 0092, 0140-0154*).

6. As per claim 2, 3, Narin et al teach a method wherein the access rules can be set to allow some group members to see but not to modify the software license data, to restrict access based upon inputted field information to some group members (*see paragraphs 0154*).

7. As per claim 4, Narin et al teach a method wherein the inputted field information is a department field and the access rules are such that some group members can only access software license information associated with their department (*see abstract, fig 11, paragraphs 0009, 0010, 0017, 0088, 0092, 0140-0154*).

8. As per claim 5, Narin et al teach a method wherein the group administration application can be used to require group members to input field data (*see abstract, fig 11, paragraphs 0009, 0010, 0017, 0088, 0092, 0140-0154*).

9. As per claim 6, Narin et al teach a method wherein selected access rules can allow a group member to access a digital record and adjust the rights associated with the software license (*see abstract, fig 11, paragraphs 0009, 0010, 0017, 0088, 0092, 0140-0154*).

Art Unit: 3621

10. As per claims 7-9, Narin et al teach a method wherein the group administration application is adapted to allow the production of reports concerning the software licenses of the group, part of a web based application uses role based security (*see abstract, fig 11, paragraphs 0009, 0010, 0017, 0088, 0092, 0140-0154*).

11. As per claim 10, Narin et al teach a method wherein configuration information for the computers running the software are stored in the digital records (*see abstract, fig 11, paragraphs 0009, 0010, 0017, 0088, 0092, 0140-0154*).

12. As per claim 11, Narin et al teach a license management system comprising: a memory adapted to store digital records of software licenses for multiple groups, the digital records indicating rights associated with a software licenses; and a processor adapted to execute a group administration application for setting the access rules for members of a group, the rules controlling the access of digital record data of the group by members of the group, wherein the access rules are used to determine whether to allow a member of the group to access digital record data (*see abstract, fig 11, paragraphs 0009, 0010, 0017, 0088, 0092, 0140-0154*).

13. As per claims 12, 13, Narin et al teach a license management system wherein the access rules can be set to allow some group members to see but not to modify the software license data, to restrict access based upon inputted field information to some group members (*see abstract, fig 11, paragraphs 0009, 0010, 0017, 0088, 0092, 0140-0154*).

14. As per claim 14, Narin et al teach a license management system wherein the inputted field information is a customer defined field and the access rules are such that some group members can only access software license information associated with the customer definition (*see abstract, fig 11, paragraphs 0009, 0010, 0017, 0088, 0092, 0140-0154*).

15. As per claim 15, Narin et al teach a license management system wherein the group administration application can be used to require group members to input field data (*see abstract, fig 11, paragraphs 0009, 0010, 0017, 0088, 0092, 0140-0154*).

16. As per claim 16, Narin et al teach a license management system wherein selected access rules can allow a group member to access a digital record and adjust the rights associated with the software license (*see abstract, fig 11, paragraphs 0009, 0010, 0017, 0088, 0092, 0140-0154*).

17. As per claims 17-19, Narin et al teach a license management system wherein the group administration application is adapted to allow the production of reports concerning the software licenses of the group, part of a web based application and uses role based security (*see abstract, fig 11, paragraphs 0009, 0010, 0017, 0088, 0092, 0140-0154*).

18. As per claim 20, Narin et al teach a license management system wherein configuration information for the computers running the software are stored in the digital records (*see abstract, fig 11, paragraphs 0009, 0010, 0017, 0088, 0092, 0140-0154*).

19. As per claim 21, Narin et al teach a computer readable media comprising software to instruct a computer to do the steps of: maintaining digital records of software licenses for multiple groups, the digital records indicating rights associated with software licenses; in response to input to a group administration application, setting the access rules for members of a group, the access rules controlling the access of digital record data of the group by members of the group; and using the access rules to determine whether to allow a member of the group to access digital record data (*see abstract, fig 11, paragraphs 0009, 0010, 0017, 0088, 0092, 0140-0154*).

20. As per claims 22, 23, Narin et al teach a computer readable media wherein the access rules can be set to allow some group members to see but not to modify the software license data, to restrict access based upon inputted field information to some group members (*see abstract, fig 11, paragraphs 0009, 0010, 0017, 0088, 0092, 0140-0154*).

21. As per claim 24, Narin et al teach a computer readable media wherein the inputted field information is a department field and the access rules are such that some group members can only access software license information associated with their department (*see abstract, fig 11, paragraphs 0009, 0010, 0017, 0088, 0092, 0140-0154*).

Art Unit: 3621

22. As per claim 25, Narin et al teach a computer readable media wherein the group administration application can be used to require group members to input field data (*see abstract, fig 11, paragraphs 0009, 0010, 0017, 0088, 0092, 0140-0154*).

23. As per claim 26, Narin et al teach a computer readable media wherein selected access rules can allow a group member to access a digital record and adjust the rights associated with the software license (*see abstract, fig 11, paragraphs 0009, 0010, 0017, 0088, 0092, 0140-0154*).

24. As per claim 27, Narin et al teach a computer readable media wherein the group administration application is adapted to allow the production of reports concerning the software licenses of the group (*see abstract, fig 11, paragraphs 0009, 0010, 0017, 0088, 0092, 0140-0154*).

25. As per claims 28, 29, Narin et al teach a computer readable media wherein the group administration application is part of a web based application and uses role based security (*see abstract, fig 11, paragraphs 0009, 0010, 0017, 0088, 0092, 0140-0154*).

26. As per claim 30, Narin et al teach a computer readable media wherein configuration information for the computers running the software are stored in the digital records (*see abstract, fig 11, paragraphs 0009, 0010, 0017, 0088, 0092, 0140-0154*).

Response to Arguments

27. Applicant's arguments filed April 13th, 2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

a. Applicant argues that the prior art Narin et al fail to teach a digital records indicating rights associated with software licenses. Applicant further argues that Narin fail to suggest that some users be prevented from accessing digital record data rather than prevented from accessing the content protected by the digital record data. Examiner respectfully disagrees with applicant's characteristics of the prior art. Narin et al teach among other things The licensor receives a request from the requester, where the request includes an identifier identifying the requestor and rights data associated with the content, and where the rights data lists at least one identifier and rights associated therewith. The licensor thereafter locates the identifier of the requestor in the directory, and locates in the directory, from the located requestor identifier in the directory, the identifier of each group which the requestor is a member of. Each of the located requestor identifier and each located group identifier is compared to each identifier listed in the rights data to find a match, and the license is issued to the requestor with the rights associated with the matching identifier.

Conclusion

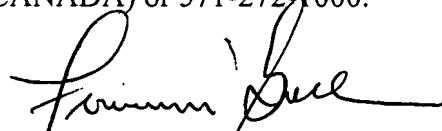
THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to FIRMIN BACKER whose telephone number is 571-272-6703. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew J. Fischer can be reached on (571) 272-6779. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



FIRMIN BACKER
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3621

June 5, 2007